

Groundbreaking Environmental Officer Course to launch at boot Düsseldorf 2024

Innovative Online Modular Course Sets New Standards for Environmental Training in Nautical Tourism and will be available free of charge.

Brussels, 14/12/2023 – The EnviroNaut project, in collaboration with six esteemed partners and with the support of Erasmus+ funding from the European Union, proudly presents the culmination of a two-year endeavor—the launch of the EnviroNaut Environmental Officer Course. This pioneering online modular course, set to be unveiled at boot Düsseldorf 2024 on January 22nd at the Blue Innovation Dock, signifies a groundbreaking approach to environmental training within the nautical tourism sector. Register for the launch event here.

Initiated in February 2022, the Environaut project aimed to address crucial environmental challenges within the nautical tourism sector. The need to increase control over environmental impacts, improve knowledge regarding legislation, pollution control, and waste management highlighted the need for a comprehensive training program.



The primary objective of the EnviroNaut projectis to create the course for the position of "Environmental Officer in Nautical Tourism" and deliver it as a modular online course. This innovative program aims to bridge the gaps in environmental awareness, legislative compliance, and sustainability practices.

The launch event, scheduled for Monday, January 22, 2024, at boot Düsseldorf 2024, will feature a panel discussion on skills for sustainable nautical tourism from 14:30 – 15:15 and presentation of the EnviroNaut course at the Blue Innovation Dock stage from 15:30 to 16:00. Panellists include Karsten Stahlhut, Managing Director of the German Marine Association, Frank

Schweikert (Founder, German Ocean Foundation) and Stavros Katsikadis, President of the Greek Marinas Association, among others.

The EnviroNaut course comprises five online modules, including an introductory module on Ocean Literacy and four specialised modules tailored for workers in Marinas, Sea Schools and Watersport Clubs, Skippers, and Maintenance Companies. Upon completion, participants will receive a certificate for the position as Environmental Officers. It will also be a sign of environmental action for companies training their employees, which will be welcomed by customers, the local community and policymakers.



Following the launch, the EnviroNaut course will be accessible to everyone at <u>environaut.eu</u> free of charge.

The EnviroNaut team invites industry professionals, stakeholders, and the public to join us at boot Düsseldorf 2024 and embark on this transformative journey toward a more sustainable future for nautical tourism.

Register <u>here</u> to get guaranteed access to the **blue innovation dock stage** and benefit from the lounge and complementary drinks.

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About European Boating Industry (EBI)

EBI represents the recreational boating industry in Europe. It encompasses all related sectors, such as boatbuilding, equipment manufacturing, marinas and service providers. The industry is a significant contributor to the European economy, representing 32,000 companies, predominantly SMEs that employ over 280,000 people directly. The mission of EBI is to advance and represent a sustainable boating and nautical tourism industry #MadeInEurope. More information on EBI's website: www.europeanboatingindustry.eu